

pressly, that in the *latter times* some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils, forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats." And, again, in 2 Thessalonians, ii, is this very pointed and remarkable prediction or prophesy, "That day shall not come except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed—the son of perdition, who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped, so that he, as God, sitteth in the Temple of God, showing himself that he is God." And in a following verse, "For the mystery of iniquity doth already work, only he who now letteth, will let (or hinder) until he be taken out of the way, and then shall that wicked be revealed," &c., and in a subsequent verse it is said, "Whose coming is after the working of Satan, with all power, and signs, and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish."

Some of these predicted defections, and apostasies, took place very early, and, to a very great extent, in the Asiatic Churches of Pergamos, Thyatira, Sardis, and Laodicea,—a majority of the seven. This was about, or very shortly after the time the Church commenced at Rome, and hundreds of years before any submission or subjection to a Roman Church, or its supremacy or infallibility was claimed, or even imagined. Some of those Churches, if not all, had been planted previous to the one at Rome. If there must be infallibility somewhere, it may be asked, was it in any or all of these earliest but apostatizing Churches; or was it in the mother of all the Churches—the one at Jerusalem? If at all existing, it must at that time have been in some of them. Yet they have all long since vanished away, and there is no record, or even "tradition" of their having transferred that infallibility to Rome. From the description given by our Lord himself of those four Asiatic Churches, it is plain enough, that there was no infallibility in any of them.

The Scriptural passage cited by the Archbishop in support of the asserted infallibility of the Church is in Matthew xxviii 20,—"Lo I am with you alway even to the end of the world." He has not given the previous and connected passages. They are